



United Methodist Church of Antioch
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2023
5:00pm

PRELUDE *In Dulci Jubilo*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today Family Friendly Worship Service, 5pm
 Traditional Communion Service, 7pm

Sun, Dec. 31 Worship, 9:15am

CHRISTMAS WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Please Note: Pastor Katie will be on vacation following the Christmas Eve 7:00pm service through January 1. The office will be closed during this time. If you need pastoral assistance while Pastor Katie is away, please contact Beth Stahl, Jim Menzer or Cheryl Collins. Also, please know Pastor Katie turns her cell phone off while on vacation, so she will not receive your calls, voicemail, texts, or email until she returns. Merry Christmas to all, and let us rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior!

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

5:00pm service Denny Sathoff & Dawn Vogel

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Unison)

Spoken after Reader 2 "...our Emmanuel, God with us."

We live as people in the in-between who celebrate the arrival of the Light that shines in lost and broken places as we wait for the day when we will live in the fullness of God's kin-dom.

MISSION STATEMENT (Unison)

The mission of the United Methodist Church of Antioch is to grow in faith; to worship God following the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to be instruments of God's love through the Holy Spirit as we reach out to our community and the world.

** Invites you to stand as you are able, or to sit with gusto!*

***OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to us on this Christmas Eve. We celebrate your birthday with excitement because we know it means you love us. We ask you to be with us and our families as we worship you with everything we have this night. Amen.

Hymn #217 *Away in a Manger*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:1-20

In those days, a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude

of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So, they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

HYMN #240 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

INTERACTIVE STORYTELLING

Group One (Section nearest organ pipes):

Shepherds “Yo, Sheep!”

Group Two (Center section):

Sheep “Baa!”

Group Three (Section in front of soundbooth):

Night “Silent night, holy night” (Sung)

Group Four (Overflow section):

Angel “Hallelujah! Hallelujah!” (Sung)

All: ***Good News*** “Yes!” (with fist pump)

All: ***Great Joy*** (Shouts/Cheering)

All: ***Baby*** “Ahhh”

HYMN #234 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

OFFERTORY *Jesus, King of Angels*

DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

WE DEDICATE OUR GIFTS TO GOD (All Together): O God, thank you for sending Jesus to earth. He loves us so much and we love him! Take what we give tonight and bless the world with greater love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

You are invited to break your glow sticks at this time. If people need help cracking them, please help one another.

Hymn #239 *Silent Night*

***POSTLUDE** *Joy to the World*

Red indicates “The United Methodist Hymnal”
Black indicates “The Faith We Sing”
-OneLicense # A-739071



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Pastor- Rev. Katie Voigt
Music Director/Organist-Debbie Gillette
Choir Director-Nicole Heyl